

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the application, and for the indication of allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,447,496, that claims 2 and 4-12 are allowed, and that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response to the rejection, claim 1 has been cancelled and claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the intervening claims.

Accordingly, the foregoing amendments should place the application in condition for allowance.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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